

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3, 11, 13, and 20-32 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; and claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 18 have been amended. Thus, claims 2, 4-10, 12, and 14-19 are presently pending, with claims 5 and 14 being independent.

In the Office Action dated December 21, 2004, claims 5-7, and 14-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As suggested in the Action, claims 5 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form and should therefore be in condition for allowance. Original claims 6 and 7 depend directly or indirectly from claim 5, and original claims 15-17 depend directly or indirectly from claim 14. Accordingly, dependent claims 6, 7, and 15-17 should also be in condition for allowance. Furthermore, the necessary amendments have been made herein so that claims 2 and 8-10 now depend from claim 5 and claims 12, 18, and 19 now depend from claim 14. These dependent claims should also be in condition for allowance.

Based upon the foregoing, the prior art rejections set forth in the Action are now moot. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

Applicant further notes that the claim objection set forth in the Action has been addressed in the amendment to claim 5 (i.e., the word "supporting" has been inserted between the

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words "hollow" and "leg" in line 15 of claim 5). It is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.


The present application should now be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (800) 445-3460.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

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